

[Martin V. Corn]

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Redfield, Georgia B.

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Words 384

MARTIN V. CORN

(GIVEN BY SON R. L. CORN)

"My father with his wife (who was my mother) and the seven of us first children, came to New Mexico from Texas in 1879. I was five years old.

" We came in a caravan with four or five other families in covered wagons.

"I never will forget that trip. I remember we had tin type pictures taken, and after we got to New Mexico we made camp at Seven Rivers and most of the men went on to Roswell and Lincoln, prospecting. While they were gone - Hudson killed Ike Teeters when they got into some kind of argument.

"My father liked this part of the country so we settled east of Roswell, on South Spring River, five miles southeast of Roswell, just south of Lover's Lane. Fether set out the trees of Lover's Lane, on the south side, and Oregon Bell set them out on the North side, on what is now the L.F.D. Ranch, which Bell owned and afterwards sold to John W. Poe.

"Pat Garrett contracted to have the dobes and walls of our house made. The house is still there. You can see it looking south from Lover's Lane. C 18 - 6/5/41 - N. Mex.

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"While we were waiting for our house to be built, all nine of us lived in a dug out and one tent, and for a while in a sod house on the creek" (South Spring River).

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"In 1881 I went to school to Judge Rogers. He was the first teacher in this part of the country and taught in this the first school built three miles out East Second Street. The school was a one room [dirt?] roofed adobe. I afterwards went to Miss Sara Lund, who is now Mrs. C.D. Bonney, who taught in a better and larger building, built in 1885 across the Hondo a half mile southeast of Roswell.

"In 1900 I was married to Miss Maggie Bowden - a teacher - and we have six sons Fred, Richard, Irwin, Alton, and twins - Donald and Roland. There are ranches enough for all of them spread all over the country. " The Roswell people say the Corn men are bound to be ranchmen. No matter how much education they get they finally go back to ranching. " The children born to Father's first marriage to Mary Jane Hampton were four girls Mary, Minty, Eva and Sally who was a baby when we came to New Mexico and four boys, John, Bob (that's me) Mart, and George. George was born after we came to New Mexico. " Fathers second marriage was to Julie McVicker on October 14, 1886. " The children of the second marriage were three girls, Minnie, May and Lillian, and eight boys, Waid, Lee, Charlie, Jess, Roe, Hub, Poe, and Clarence - nineteen children in all and a few extra ones our parents raised with us.

"The family has multiplied considerably and helped swell the population of this part of New Mexico.

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"Father died at the age of seventy-six years. He was buried as he requested, at his "Eden Valley Ranch", twenty miles north of Roswell."

Given in Interview By Son (4/14/37)

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R. L. Corn - 812 N. Richardson Ave., Roswell